



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/823,401	04/13/2004	Gregory Kellogg	95,1408-XXX	3231
7590	09/27/2004		EXAMINER	
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff 32nd Floor 300 S. Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606			COOLEY, CHARLES E	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1723	

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/823,401	KELLOGG ET AL.	
Examiner	Charles E. Cooley	Art Unit	1723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM  
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2004.

2a) This action is FINAL.                  2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 13 April 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) All b) Some \* c) None of:  
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

## OFFICE ACTION

1. This application has been assigned to Technology Center 1700, Art Unit 1723 and the following will apply for this application:

Please direct all written correspondence with the correct application serial number for this application to Art Unit 1723.

Telephone inquiries regarding this application should be directed to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html> or 1-866-217-9197 or to the Examiner at (571) 272-1139. All official facsimile should be transmitted to (703) 872-9306.

2. As the PTO continues to move towards a fully electronic environment, the office will phase-in its E-Patent Reference program. This program: (1) provides downloading capability of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications cited in Office actions via the E-Patent Reference feature of the Office's PAIR system; and (2) ceases mailing paper copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications with office actions except for citations made during the international stage of an international application under PCT.

Effective June 2004, paper copies of cited U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications will cease to be mailed to applicants with Office actions from this Technology Center. Paper copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature will continue to be included with office actions.

The U.S. patents and patent application publications cited in office actions are available for download via the Office's PAIR system. As an alternate source, all U.S.

patents and patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site ([www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)), from the Office of Public Records and from commercial sources. Inquiries about the use of the Office's PAIR system should be referred to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html> or 1-866-217-9197.

Requests to restart a period for response due to a missing U.S. patent or patent application publications will not be granted.

***Priority***

3. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

***Drawings***

4. The drawings are objected to because:

- a. The elements recited in claim 1 (see Figures 29A-29C) should be labeled with an appropriate reference character which is added to the specification as in the parent application 10/414,536.
- b. The drawing Figures 28, 29A-30C and 35-38F lack appropriate reference characters and lead lines to identify the illustrated elements (37 CFR 1.84(p)(q)).

Any reference characters added to these Figures must be described in the specification. Particular attention should be given to Figures 29A-29C which depict the claimed invention. Note the changes made to the drawings in the parent application 10/414,536.

5. Applicant should also ensure a proper one-to-one correspondence between the specification and drawings in accordance with MPEP 608.01(g) and 37 CFR 1.84(f).

The brief description of the drawings and the descriptive portion of the specification require revision in accordance with the above drawing objections. (37 CFR 1.84(o)).

6. Applicant is required to submit the drawing changes on replacement sheets as outlined below:

37 CFR 1.121 (d) requires that any drawing changes be submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 on replacement sheets as an attachment to an amendment document. An accompanying detailed explanation of all of the changes should be provided on a separate sheet in the drawing amendments or remarks section of the amendment document. A marked-up copy of one or more of the figures being amended, with annotations, may also be included to provide further explanation of the changes made. The marked-up version must be labeled as "Annotated marked-up Drawings." Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even though only one figure may be amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per Sec. 1.84(c)) so as not to

obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the examiner does not accept the changes, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. No further drawing submission of the amended drawing figure(s) by applicant would be required, unless applicant is so notified.

***Specification***

7. The abstract of the disclosure is acceptable.
8. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. A suggested title is -- ELECTRONIC SPINDLE FOR USING CENTRIPETAL ACCELERATION TO DRIVE FLUID MOVEMENT IN A MICROFLUIDICS SYSTEM-- as in the parent application.
9. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.
10. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
  - a. In the preliminary amendment filed 13 APR 2004 to page 1, line 3 of the specification, replace "6,548,778" with --6,548,788--.
  - b. All references to other applications throughout the specification should be updated (now U.S. Patent No., now abandoned, pending, etc.). See page 5, line 3.
  - c. In the "DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" section on pages 6-7, the description of the figures does not match the Figure legends. For example, in

line 7, "3" should be –3J--; in line 10, "6" should be –6K--; in line 10, "9" should be –9H--, etc. The entire specification should be properly correlated to the Figure legends.

- d. Page 11, line 4 is missing data regarding the WO Publication.
- e. Page 30, line 13 is missing data.
- f. Page 50, line 16 refers to Figure 1 yet the described structure is shown in Figures 29A-29C.
- g. Page 52, lines 9-11: the words "WHAT ELSE??" should be deleted.
- h. Page 54, line 3 is missing data regarding the Science Publication.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Double Patenting***

11. A rejection based on double patenting of the "same invention" type finds its support in the language of 35 U.S.C. 101 which states that "whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process ... may obtain a patent therefor ..." (Emphasis added). Thus, the term "same invention," in this context, means an invention drawn to identical subject matter. See *Miller v. Eagle Mfg. Co.*, 151 U.S. 186 (1894); *In re Ockert*, 245 F.2d 467, 114 USPQ 330 (CCPA 1957); and *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970).

A statutory type (35 U.S.C. 101) double patenting rejection can be overcome by canceling or amending the conflicting claims so they are no longer coextensive in scope. The filing of a terminal disclaimer cannot overcome a double patenting rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 101.

12. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of patent claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,719,682 B2. This is a double patenting rejection.

***Conclusion***

13. This is a continuation of applicant's earlier Application No. 10/414,536. All claims are drawn to the same invention claimed in the earlier application and could have been finally rejected on the grounds and art of record in the next Office action if they had been entered in the earlier application. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL** even though it is a first action in this case. See MPEP § 706.07(b). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no, however, event will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles E. Cooley whose telephone number is (571) 272-1139. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda Walker can be reached on (571) 272-1151. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Charles E. Cooley  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1723

23 September 2004